

September 1998

Clinical Center News

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CC and National Rehabilitation Hospital join forces

The CC and the National Rehabilitation Hospital (NRH) have joined efforts to provide assistance for individuals with physical disabilities caused by illness and injury. The collaboration allows the institutions to work together in areas of mutual interest while sharing their

expertise in different clinical problems.

"This alliance offers the best of both worlds," said Dr. John Gallin, CC director. "It will enhance care for patients at both institutions while enriching the learning environment for staff physicians in both settings."

Under the agreement, staff physicians at the CC and the NRH will serve as preceptors for physicians in advanced training as fellows and residents. The agreement also provides an umbrella for encouraging and expanding cooperative efforts in clinical research, referral of patients, and consultation in patient care.

The NRH, located in Washington, D.C., offers comprehensive rehabilitation for individuals with significant loss of function, usually as a result of traumatic injury or stroke, while the CC provides rehabilitation for patients who have lost function through disease, often rare neurologic conditions or cancer. This agreement grants NRH physicians a chance to work with conditions that are less common in the general population, while offering NIH researchers experience with more common functional problems.



CC and NRH leaders at the cooperative agreement signing ceremony. Shown are (standing left to right) Dr. Lynn Gerber, chief of the Rehabilitation Medicine Department, Dr. David Henderson, deputy director for clinical care, Dr. Gerben DeJong, NRH Research Center director, and Dr. John Toerge, NRH medical director and senior vice president. Seated are CC Director Dr. John Gallin and Edward Eckenhoff, NRH president and CEO.

For this year's
Medicine for the
Public schedule of
speakers and
topics, see page 6

CC Director Dr. John Gallin among NIH representatives at the National Medical Association conference

"The practicing physician plays an enormous role in delivering clinical research to patients," said CC Director Dr. John Gallin, one of several presenters at a symposium held during the National Medical Association (NMA) Annual Convention and Scientific Assembly early last month in New Orleans, Louisiana.

The Edward C. Mazique Symposium, titled "Science, Service and Business of Practice-Based Research: A Mecca for African-American Physicians and Patients?" also included presentations by NIH's Dr. Vivian Pinn, director of the Office of Research on Women's Health (ORWH), and Dr. John Ruffin, associate director of the Office of Research on Minority Health (ORMH). Additional panel members were Rep. Dr. Donna Christian-Green (D-Virgin Islands), and Dr. Robert Harrison III, professor of medicine at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry. Dr. David Satcher, U.S. Surgeon General, delivered opening remarks.

Dr. Gallin told an audience of NMA-member physicians that clinical research has in the past not been an area of formal training in many medical schools, but as the number of clinical trials increases, practicing physicians are becoming a critical part of the research process. As a result, training for all medical staff is important.

"Should clinical research training be included in the medical school curriculum, either as a

mandatory or elective course?" he asked. "My argument is that it should."

During his presentation, Dr. Gallin also discussed some of the obstacles to physicians' involvement in clinical research, including medical school debt, managed care, mistrust by patients, inadequately informed public, and lack of training for health professionals.

According to Dr. Gallin, the Clinical Center and NIH are currently working to find solutions for some of those barriers, including providing medical school graduates pursuing a career in clinical research with a \$20,000 per year, tax-free loan repayment program; the use of telemedicine to link rural clinics to NIH physicians; increased access to health and protocol information on the internet; and improved safeguards and heightened awareness of the protocol process. Another area of interest is expanding the 75 general clinical research centers across the country, which currently support 8,000 protocols and are coordinated by the NIH. "My dream is that we link all these centers together and we link anyone anywhere who wants to do clinical research in the world together to create a virtual clinical research center," he said.

In a presentation titled, "Why Women and Minorities Should Care About Biomedical Research," Dr. Pinn discussed some of the disparities in health among minority populations, and explained why having diverse groups represented in all aspects of clinical research is important.

"To overcome disparities we need the scientific data from clinical research to help us effect change in health care and health care policy," she said. She further stressed the need for minority involvement in clinical research, not just as volunteers, but also as investigators and policy makers. Dr. Pinn said that one way to increase the number of minorities in clinical trials is to give them more opportunities to participate, and she emphasized the role of the CC in that endeavor. "We are seeing a great outreach effort, one that I applaud, of the Clinical Center, to try to make sure that we have inclusion of minority populations of the studies that are conducted there."

Dr. John Ruffin discussed the role that the ORMH and the ORWH play in obtaining information from the public and bringing it back to the NIH. "Our offices were given a challenge," he said. "We have to quickly identify what it is that we should be doing that we are not doing." According to Dr. Ruffin, approximately 60% of the budgets of these offices comes from recommendations that they receive from the public. "What we do is take those recommendations to people who make a difference, to see if they can be converted into good science," he said. He further challenged attendees to use NIH as a resource and encouraged them to make their needs known. "Your recommendations should continue to come to the NIH," he said.

—by LaTonya Kittles

Clinical Center
News

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Help Make Breathing Easier at the Clinical Center

Smoking is prohibited on the Sun Deck, within 100 feet of all entrances and posted no-smoking areas, and in the parking garage and stairwells.

CC'ers reminded of smoking policy

Fumes from tobacco smoke are known to affect smokers and non-smokers alike. To help curb the associated risk of exposure to environmental tobacco smoke, the NIH instituted a ban on the use of lighted tobacco products in various locations, including NIH buildings both on and off campus, in government-owned vehicles, near entrances and exits, and within designated "Smoke-Free Zones."

Unique to the CC is a policy developed in accordance with the standards of the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, which was approved by the Medical Executive Committee in 1992, and takes into account not only the employees of

the CC, but also its patients and visitors. Here, the health risks of smoking are coupled with another known risk, deaths due to fire. Findings reported by the National Fire Protection Association showed that 75 percent of fire fatalities in health-care institutions occur among patients using smoking materials. *Therefore, at the CC, smoking has been banned in all patient-care units, and throughout the building, including all stairwells and parking garages. Smoking is also prohibited within 100 feet of all entrances and in "Smoke-Free Zones."*

Employees who wish to stop smoking can call the NIH Employee Assistance Program for information and referral at 6-3164.

briefs

CC Director's Award ceremony set

Later this month, CC employees will be recognized during the CC Director's Annual Address and Awards Ceremony. The event is marked for Sept. 22 from 2 to 4 p.m. in Masur Auditorium. A reception will follow the ceremony in the Visitor Information Center.

Board to meet

The CC Board of Governors is set to meet on Sept. 14 from 9 a.m. to noon in the Medical Board Room. The meeting will cover, among other topics, operational reviews and a strategic plan discussion.

Conference at the CC

The Department of Transfusion Medicine, along with the American Red Cross Biomedical Services, Baxter, and Nexell, will host the 17th annual Immunohematology & Blood Transfusion Symposium on Sept. 24 and 25. The event, which will be held at the CC, will cover topics such as "Advances in Blood Transfusion

and Safety," "Cellular Therapies," and "Platelets and Apheresis." For more information contact Karen Cipolone at 6-8335.

New emergency procedure

CC staff wishing to reach emergency services now need only dial 911 from their campus phone. To obtain emergency police or fire rescue services for off-campus buildings the caller must first dial 9 for an outside line and then 911 to be connected to the appropriate jurisdiction. The non-emergency telephone numbers for both the NIH Police and Fire Departments have not changed. Call 6-2372 for the Fire and Emergency Response Section and 6-5685 for the Police Branch.

Communicating seminar

The CC education and training section will sponsor "Communicating for Results," on Sept. 10 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the first floor conference room at 6100

Executive Boulevard. Attendees will learn ways to better communicate with co-workers and employees. To register, call 6-1618.

Celebrate Hispanic heritage

The NCI and the NIA will kick off Hispanic Heritage Month (Sept. 15 - Oct. 15) with the annual NIH Scientific Symposium and Health Education Fair on Tuesday, Sept. 15 from 9 a.m. to noon in Masur Auditorium. This year's theme is "Abriendo Puertas (Opening Doors)—Biomedical Research and Hispanic Health Issues." NIH Deputy Director Ruth Kirschstein will make opening remarks. NCI Director Dr. Richard Klausner and NIA Director Dr. Richard Hodes will join other scientists and health-care providers from the Hispanic community in a panel discussion about current health issues affecting the Hispanic population. An information fair featuring exhibits and handouts will be held outside the auditorium.

Maia Gemignani worked this summer in the Social Work Department as an intern. Shown with her supervisor, CC Social Worker Fred Boykin, both spoke highly of the summer student program as an excellent opportunity to gain experience in the clinical setting.



Program for students meets, exceeds expectations

The summer's end brought a close to the 1998 CC summer program for students. This unique program has given 73 college and high school students an opportunity to expand their horizons and gain experience in the workplace.

"I think it's an outstanding program," said Carl Lucas, EEO chief and coordinator of the summer student program. "I feel that it gives aspiring scientists and doctors a chance to explore potential opportunities at the NIH."

In the program, students can work in a science-based, allied health, or administrative position. This enables students with a variety of interests to explore options at the CC.

"Having the youth within the CC ask challenging questions raises the awareness of those of us who have been at NIH for a long time," said Lucas. "We are able to exchange something with these students, as they help us work in a direction that we may not have thought about."

Jay Wang, a second-year premed chemistry major at the University of California, Berkeley, spent this summer working with the Clinical Pathology Department. It's his third summer here at the CC.

"My first summer I started working as a volunteer for Dr. Csako," said Wang. "I guess I worked pretty hard because he wanted to have me back the following years."

Wang's supervisor, Dr. Gyorgy Csako, is pleased with the program and the work of his interns. This summer he worked with two other students in addition to Wang.

"Our department is very happy with the program," said Dr. Csako, senior staff scientist of chemistry in the Clinical Pathology Department. "Jay is one of the most successful students we've worked with. He has extremely good skills and we are happy to have him on board."

Another member of the summer program, Maia Gemignani, a graduate student at Virginia Commonwealth University, also enjoyed her summer

in the Social Work Department.

"As I expected, I had a very rich experience at the NIH," said Gemignani. "I became familiar with many different illnesses and was able to interact with many different disciplines regarding patient care. I was also fortunate to talk to many patients and gain insight into what their experiences with chronic illness mean to them."

She is pursuing her master's degree in social work and will begin her final year of study this fall.

"Maia has been an excellent intern this summer," said her supervisor, CC Social Worker Fred Boykin. "She has brought a wealth of research experience into her position and assisted in our research efforts. She has also gained experience both in the clinical and research arenas."

According to those involved, the summer student program has once again proved to be a valuable program within the Clinical Center for both the students and those who work with them.

—by Bonnie Flock

A Summer at the CC: Press, articles, action

"NBC is coming," said my supervisor with excitement, yet hesitation. Then in that moment, the frenzy set in. The NIH police must be notified, as well as the parking office. A decision must be made as to who will accompany the crew. They must then grab some patient consent forms and head out. . . but wait . . . "Never mind, they're not coming," sigh. The crew from NBC got a last minute call and had to go on another assignment. After all, nothing in the communications field is really definite—until it happens.

This is just one of the elements I have come to know and experience this summer as an intern in the Office of Clinical Center Communications. Actually, I have learned quite a few lessons at the CC. The combination of communications and the clinical setting has not only taught me about my field, but also about life.

Certainly the professional experience I have gained this summer will be invaluable to my future. Learning the basics about press calls, HTML and web design, and writing for the *CC News* have all given me the opportunity to learn more about various aspects of the communications field.

It is, perhaps, the lessons I have learned from the experiences of others that may prove to be the greatest experience of all. I have had the privilege of interviewing some amazing people that have truly had some important stories to share.

One of my first assignments of the summer was a piece on T'ai Chi at the CC. After speaking to the recreation therapy department and Dr. Ge, I was invited to participate in one of the T'ai Chi classes. Participating alongside the patients added a whole new perspective to what T'ai Chi has to offer. Talking to the patients involved afterwards was a really moving experience.

The strength these people have in the face of adversity and illness is such an inspiration.

I also had the opportunity to meet Barbara Saltzman and listen to her reading of her late son's book, "The Jester Has Lost His Jingle." She lost her 22-year-old son to Hodgkin's disease in 1990. His dream was to have this book published, and she made that dream a reality. Saltzman embodies strength and is proof that anything is possible with determination and will. She brings the book alive by being an example that laughter and happiness are inside all of us, even when times are the hardest.

So to capture the essence of my summer at the CC, I would have to say it has been an eye-opener. I was exposed to situations and circumstances that I hadn't known before. My expectation for any job is that it expands my horizons in some way; the CC did just that.

—by Bonnie Flock



CC Communications summer intern Bonnie Flock is entering her junior year at Ithaca College in upstate New York.



Dr. Thomas Lewis recently retired after 27 years at the CC. He is shown here recycling some files that have accumulated since his arrival in 1971.

Associate director for information systems retires

Dr. Thomas Lewis, associate director for information systems, recently retired after 27 years at the Clinical Center.

Dr. Lewis has been associate director since 1982, and is best known for his work with developing the medical information system (MIS), which houses patients' clinical information. He has also played a large role in upgrading and enhancing the MIS, including reassessing existing systems, developing strategies for appropriate enhancements, integrating new technologies, and evaluating cost-effective alternatives for meeting clinical, research, and management information needs. His recent technical work has been directed at providing more resources to

See Lewis, page eight

Medicine for the Public lectures begin Oct. 6



Every day, scientific discoveries bring us closer to cures and therapies for complex and intricate diseases. As these discoveries are made, the public continues to crave accurate and useful health information, including new therapies, diagnostic procedures, and research.

To that end, the 1998 Medicine for the Public lecture series, sponsored by the Clinical Center, will help to satisfy this hunger for information on the latest developments in medicine.

This year's lectures, which are free and open to the public, will be held at 7 p.m. on Tuesdays in Masur Auditorium. Featured speakers include physician-scientists working at the forefront of medical research at the NIH. The sessions include:

Oct. 6, Imaging My Brain—Dr. R. Nick Bryan, director, CC Diagnostic Radiology Department, and associate director for Radiologic Imaging, will take you on a virtual tour of his own brain, highlighting how the latest imaging technology makes it possible to view internal

body structures in great detail. He will also show how these techniques have added to our knowledge of the aging normal brain and its diseases.

Oct. 13, Environmental Risks for Disease—Dr. Kenneth Olden, NIEHS director, discusses reducing the burden of human illness and dysfunction from environmental causes. He will discuss the relationship between three interactive elements of human health and human disease: environmental factors, individual susceptibility, and age.

Oct. 20, Medical Ethics in American Health Care—CC Bioethics Chief Dr. Ezekiel Emanuel will touch upon important ethical issues facing our health-care system, such as informed consent, euthanasia, and the patient-physician relationship.

Oct. 27, Childhood Hyperactivity: New Research—Dr. Judith Rapoport, chief of the Child Psychiatry Branch of the National Institute of Mental Health, will present what researchers have

learned in the last decade about childhood hyperactivity, including identification of the problem and current treatment options.

Nov. 10, Kidney Cancer: Understanding How Genes Impact Cancer—Dr. Marston Linehan, head of the urologic oncology section of the National Cancer Institute's Surgery Branch, will explore the genetic basis of kidney cancer and what that implies for other forms of cancer.

Nov. 17, A Smile for a Lifetime—Dr. Harold Slavkin, director of the National Institute of Dental Research will examine today's research and tomorrow's possibilities in the field of dental implantology.

Sign language interpreters will be provided. For other reasonable accommodations, or more information on specific topics or speakers, call 6-2563, or visit the website at <http://www.cc.nih.gov/ccc/98mfp/mfp98index.html>

It's that time again, OMS offers flu shots to employees

Test your knowledge of the flu by answering true or false to the following statements.

1. True or False. Flu can be debilitating, even for healthy people.
2. True or False. People infected with the flu are contagious before their own flu symptoms develop.
3. True or False. Flu is very infectious, and can be passed from person-to-person through casual contact.

All of the above statements are true. In fact, the flu can debilitate healthy people and is particularly serious if transmitted to the elderly or to patients with certain chronic medical conditions. Also, people are usually

infected up to two days before fevers, coughs, and aches even begin. And finally, the flu (unlike some other types of illnesses) can be passed through casual contact and can also be passed along during direct patient care. Therefore, it is now part of good medical practice for health care workers to be vaccinated against the flu. Every year, health care workers nationwide have benefited from receiving these vaccinations, protecting them, and their patients, from serious illness.

All CC health-care workers are recommended to receive an annual vaccination to protect them against the flu. So again this year, flu vaccinations will be offered through Occupational Medical Services (OMS).

This year's vaccine protects

against both influenza A and B. CC staff can "Foil the Flu" by receiving a shot during many convenient times and numerous locations throughout the hospital. Special "early-bird" health-care worker vaccinations will take place on Oct. 6 through 9. Look for schedules on patient care units and clinics. Beginning Oct. 13, the OMS (room 6C306) will offer walk-in times during the day. Because evening clinics will not be offered this year, afternoon clinic times are extended.

For more detailed information about the flu vaccine, including off-campus immunizations visit the CC home page and look for brochures throughout the hospital. Also check out the NIAID web site at <http://www.niaid.nih.gov/factsheets/flu.htm>

October 13 - November 24, 1998 OMS, Building 10, Room 6C306

<u>1st letter, last name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time (a.m.)</u>	<u>(p.m.)</u>
RS	Oct. 13	7:30-11	1-5
TUV	Oct. 14	7:30-11	1-5
WXYZ	Oct. 15	7:30-11	1-2
AB	Oct. 19	7:30-11	1-5
CD	Oct. 21	7:30-11	1-5
EF	Oct. 26	7:30-11	1-5
GH	Oct. 28	7:30-11	1-5
IJK	Nov. 2	7:30-11	1-5
LM	Nov. 9	7:30-11	1-5
NOPQ	Nov. 16	7:30-11	1-5
OPEN	Nov. 17	7:30-11	1-5
OPEN	Nov. 23	7:30-11	1-5
OPEN	Nov. 24	7:30-11	1-5

Foil the Flu!! Some interesting facts on influenza

Influenza, a highly contagious virus, is not a new disease. Here are some facts about it:

- Its name derives from the Italian expression, "influence of the stars."
- The first documented pandemic of influenza occurred in 1580.
- During the 19th century alone, there were four such pandemics.
- As late as 1918, a year-long pandemic of "Spanish flu" claimed about 21 million lives worldwide.

Please get your flu vaccine. Your patients and co-workers depend on you.

For more information on how to foil the flu, including off-campus immunization schedules, visit the CC homepage at <http://www.cc.nih.gov/cc/98flu/flu.98sced.html>

...Lewis retires after 27 years at the CC

(Continued from page five)

medical staff by integrating patient care systems with large research data archives, and enhancing the systems' data retrieval, analysis, and display capabilities.

He received his doctor of medicine in 1970 from Yale Medical School and interned in medicine and pediatrics at New Haven Hospital in Connecticut. He served as a clinical associate in 1971 and in 1974 became a resident in the Clinical Pathology Department, where he participated in epidemiological studies on hepatitis and vitamin C. He was also responsible for performing and supervising computer programming and statistics in the department. He served that

department as chief of both the laboratory computer service and the office of clinical and management systems until 1982.

While with the Clinical Pathology Department, he focused on using computers to help the hospital work better, thus the birth of the MIS. "Initially we were tasked with replacing an old computer system and it led to the development of a system to retrieve lab data," he said. "The MIS process was extremely exciting because we were able to talk to clinical directors and medical staff to learn what they would like to see in a system."

Dr. Lewis speaks very highly of his time here at the CC and most

importantly being able to work with some wonderful people. "One of the most satisfying things for me here was to be able to help prepare junior staff, including Stay-in-School staff and Stride Program participants, and watch them grow," he said.

During his retirement Dr. Lewis plans to take several months to make plans for the future and is considering consulting with several new businesses on health care technology. He plans to continue working with the Information Systems Department to help upgrade the MIS.

In regard to his departure, he said, "It's difficult to leave, but it's time to try some new challenges."

—by LaTonya Kittles

s e p t e m b e r

2 **Grand Rounds** noon - 1 p.m. Lipsett Amphitheater

The Use of Tumor Necrosis Factor in Isolated Organ Perfusion: Preclinical to Clinical Applications, H. Richard Alexander, M.D., NCI, and David Bartlett, M.D., NCI

9 **Grand Rounds** noon - 1:30 p.m. Lipsett Amphitheater

Treatment of Chronic Granulomatous Disease, Present and Future: Antibiotics to Gene Therapy, Harry Malech, M.D., NIAID

Anti-TNF-Alpha Therapies for Chronic Inflammatory Diseases, Perry Blackshear, M.D., NIEHS

(A live video conference broadcast to 50 medical schools and 1,000 hospitals across the country.)

16 **Clinical Pathologic Conference** noon - 1 p.m. Lipsett Amphitheater

Stroke in a Young Woman with an Immunodeficiency, Henry Masur, M.D., CC

Wednesday Afternoon Lecture 3 p.m. Masur Auditorium

The Erythropoietin Receptor and the Control of Red Cell Production, Harvey Lodish, Ph.D., MIT, Cambridge

The NIH Director's Lecture

23 **Grand Rounds** noon - 1 p.m. Lipsett Amphitheater

Langerhans Cells as Initial Targets for HIV Following Sexual Exposure to Virus, Andrew Blauvelt, M.D., NCI

Current Trends in Anticancer Drug Development, Frank Balis, M.D., NCI

Wednesday Afternoon Lecture 3 p.m. Masur Auditorium

Integration of Oncogenic Signals by the ARF and p53 Tumor Suppressors, Charles Sherr, M.D., Ph.D., St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memphis

30 **No Grand Rounds or** **Wednesday Afternoon** **Lectures—Yom Kippur**